

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of verifying data in a RAID system, comprising:
writing an item of data to a first data storage device, a second data storage device, and a third data storage device simultaneously, the item of data being stored as a first item of data of the first data storage device, a second item of data of the second data storage device, and a third item of data of the third data storage device, the first data storage device, the second storage device and the third storage device being included within a redundant array of inexpensive disks (RAID) system;
reading the first item of data from the first data storage device and the second item of data from the second data storage device; and
comparing the first item of data from the first storage device with the second item of data from the second storage device;
transferring a matching item of data to a requestor when the first item of data matches the second item of data;
reading the third item of data only when the first item of data and the second item of data do not match, wherein the third item of data is compared
~~, wherein if the first item of data does not match the second item of data, then~~
~~reading the third item of data from the third data storage device and~~
~~comparing the third item of data with at least one of the first item of data and the second item of data.~~

2. (Previously Presented) The method as described in claim 1, wherein if the third item of data matches at least one of the first item of data and the second item of data, transferring a matching item of data.
3. (Original) The method as described in claim 1, wherein if the third item of data matches the first item of data, updating the second item of data.
4. (Original) The method as described in claim 3, wherein the second item of data is updated to match at least one of the first item of data and the third item of data.
5. (Original) The method as described in claim 1, wherein if the third item of data does not match at least one of the first item of data and the second item of data, an error is reported.
6. (Canceled)
7. (Canceled)
8. (Currently Amended) An electronic data storage system, comprising:
 - a first data storage device suitable for storing electronic data, the first storage device including a first item of data;
 - a second data storage device suitable for storing electronic data, the second storage device including a second item of data;
 - a third data storage device suitable for storing electronic data, the third storage device including a third item of data; and
 - a storage device controller coupled to the first data storage device, the second data storage device and the third data storage device, the storage device controller writes an item of data to the first storage device, the second storage device and the third

storage device simultaneously, the item of data being stored as the first item of data of the first data storage device, the second item of data of the second data storage device, and the third item of data of the third data storage device, the first data storage device, the second storage device and the third storage device being included within a redundant array of inexpensive disks (RAID) system, the storage device controller reads a first item of data from a first data storage device and a second item of data from a second data storage device and compares the first item of data from the first storage device with the second item of data from the second storage device, the storage controller transfers a matching item of data when the first item of data matches the second item of data, the storage controller reads a third item of data only when wherein ~~if the first item of data does not match the second item of data, wherein then the third item of data is read from the third data storage device and~~ the third item of data is compared with at least one of the first item of data and the second item of data.

9. (Original) The system as described in claim 8, wherein if the third item of data matches the first item of data, at least one of the first item of data and the third item of data is transferred.

10. (Original) The system as described in claim 8, wherein if the third item of data matches the first item of data, the second item of data is updated.

11. (Original) The system as described in claim 10, wherein the second item of data is updated to match at least one of the first item of data and the third item of data.

12. (Original) The system as described in claim 8, wherein if the third item of data does not match at least one of the first item of data and the second item of data, an error is reported.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) A method of verifying data in a RAID system, comprising:
writing an item of data to a first data storage device, a second data storage device, and a third data storage device simultaneously, the item of data being stored as a first item of data of the first data storage device, a second item of data of the second data storage device, and a third item of data of the third data storage device, the first data storage device, the second storage device and the third storage device being included within a redundant array of inexpensive disks (RAID) system;
reading the first item of data from the first data storage device and the second item of data from the second data storage device; and
comparing the first item of data from the first storage device with the second item of data from the second storage device;
transferring a matching item of data to a requestor when the first item of data matches the second item of data;
reading the third item of data only when the first item of data and the second item of data do not match, wherein the third item of data is compared
~~, wherein if the first item of data does not match the second item of data, then~~
~~reading a third item of data from a third data storage device and~~
~~comparing the third item of data with the first item of data, wherein if~~
the third item of data matches the first item of data, the second item of data is updated.

16. (Original) The method as described in claim 15, wherein if the third item of data matches the first item of data, transferring at least one of the first item of data and the third item of data.

17. (Original) The method as described in claim 15, wherein the second item of data is updated to match at least one of the first item of data and the third item of data.

18. (Original) The method as described in claim 15, wherein if the third item of data does not match at least one of the first item of data and the second item of data, an error is reported.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled)